



PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: ECD-0014CIP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Daniel G. Howard, *et al.*

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Serial No.: 10/773,103

Group Art Unit: 2131

Filing Date: February 5, 2004

Title: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR MEDIA AUTHENTICATION

---

Affidavit of Anthony P. Onello, Jr.

I, Anthony P. Onello, Jr. declare and state as follows:

1. I am registered patent attorney in the referenced patent application and am authorized by ECD Systems, Inc. (hereinafter "ECD") to contact Mr. James A. Merkle, Jr. for the purpose of requesting that he execute a declaration document as an inventor in the referenced patent application.
2. On November 1, 2002, in connection with the execution of documents for a related patent application, Christian von der Heyde of ECD provided me with a current mailing address and telephone number for Mr. Merkle:

James A. Merkle, Jr.  
3128 Walton Blvd., #193  
Rochester Hills, Michigan 48309
3. Throughout December, 2002 and early January, 2003, I attempted to contact Mr. Merkle by telephone at the number provided to me by Mr. von der Heyde of ECD. No attempts were successful.
4. On January 8, 2003, I transmitted an email message to Mr. Merkle at an email address given to me by Mr. von der Heyde of ECD, requesting that Mr. Merkle provide me with a mailing address to which I can transmit application materials and declaration and assignment documents to him for execution. To date, I have not received a reply.

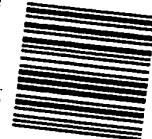
PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: ECD-0014CIP

5. On July 23, 2004, I contacted Mr. von der Heyde to inquire whether this address for Mr. Merkle was still believed to be current. Mr. von der Heyde informed me that to the best of his knowledge, it was believed to be current.
6. On July 23, 2004, I transmitted a package via certified mail to Mr. Merkle at the address listed above. The package included application materials (specification, claims, drawings) and a declaration and assignment document for execution by Mr. Merkle for the referenced application. A copy of the certified mail receipt is attached.
7. On August 24, 2004, the package was returned to me, undelivered, as being "unclaimed". A copy of the returned envelope is attached.
8. All statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true. These statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
by: Anthony P. Onello, Jr.  
Registration No. 38,572  
Attorney for Applicants

Date: September 7, 2004

CERTIFIED MAIL



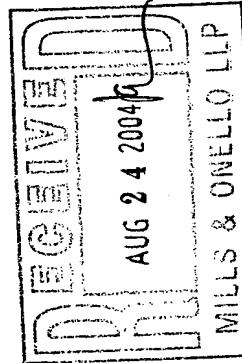
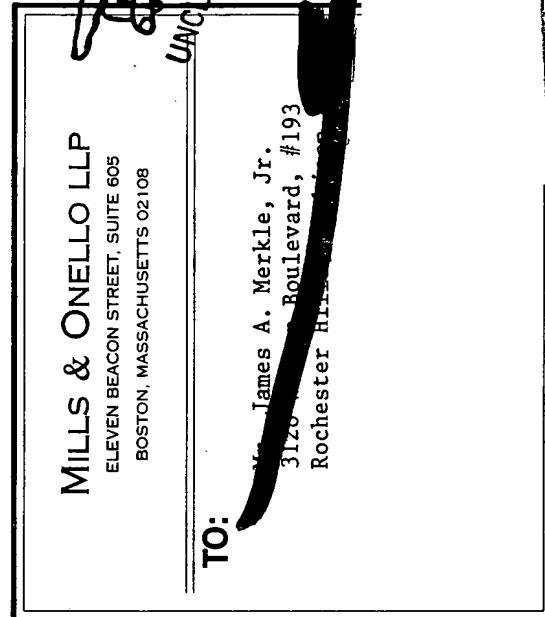
9264

48309

7001 1940 0005 8661 3803

\$7.18  
00052210-02

# FIRST CLASS MAIL



*[Handwritten signature]*  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
1st Notice \_\_\_\_\_  
2nd Notice \_\_\_\_\_  
return \_\_\_\_\_

#### SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

- Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.
- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. To whom addressed to:

James A. Merkle, Jr.  
3128 Walton Boulevard, #193  
Rochester Hills, Michigan

2. Article Number  
(Transfer from service)

PS Form 3811, Aug 2001

7001 1940 0005 8661 3803

#### COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

A. Signature

X

Agent  
 Addressee

B. Received by (Printed Name)

C. Date of Delivery

D. Is delivery address different from item 1?  Yes  
If YES, enter delivery address below:  No

3. Service Type

Certified Mail  Express Mail  
 Registered  Return Receipt for Merchandise  
 Insured Mail  C.O.D.

4. Restricted Delivery (If applicable)  Yes

Domestic Return Receipt

102595-01-M-2509

BEST AVAILABLE COPY